

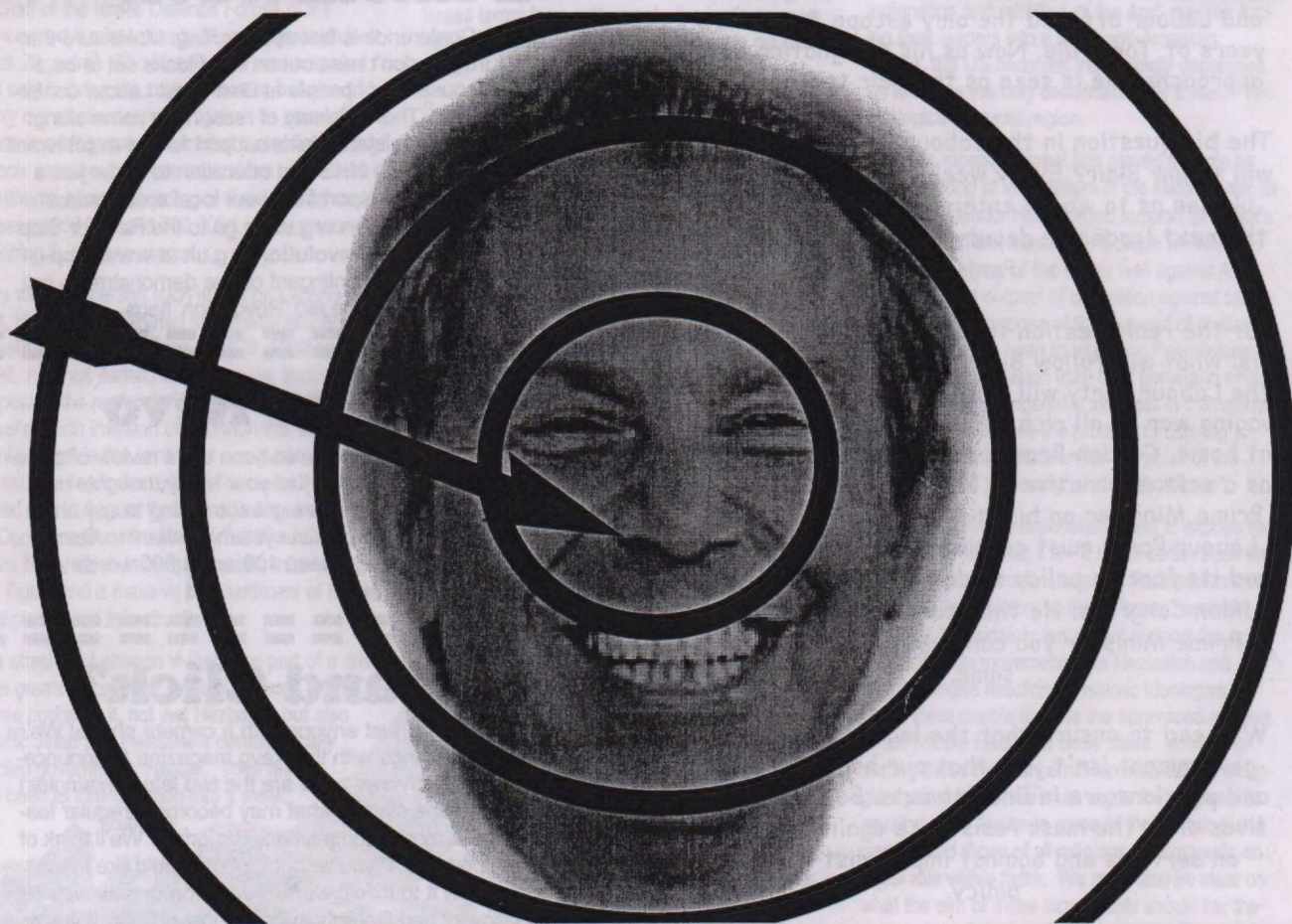
REVOLUTION

30P / DONATION

socialist youth movement

ISSUE 78

GUILTY OF MASS MURDER



TARGET BLAIR!

TROOPS OUT - BLAIR OUT
SUPPORT RESISTANCE IN IRAQ
AND AFGHANISTAN

a word from the editor

After months of speculation and years of waiting the time's finally come. Blair has announced that he's finally resigning as Prime Minister.

For everyone who ever went on an anti war demonstration, anyone who faced racism because of the colour of their skin puts them on the wrong side of the war on terror, and anyone who's currently at or plans to go to university and will face a lifetime of debts this is to be celebrated. I expect that's probably you.

Blair's policies on education, the NHS and the war on Iraq have made him increasingly unpopular. He came into office in 1997 claiming that he and Labour offered the only escape from more years of Tory rule. Now as his resignation date approaches he is seen as the heir to Thatcher.

The big question in the Labour Party now is: who will follow Blair? Every week there's more speculation as to who'll enter the race to become the next leader or deputy leader of the Labour Party.

But the real question that needs to be answered is: what will follow Blair? Its safe to say that the Labour Party will continue down its route of waging war on oil rich states abroad and services at home. Gordon Brown, previously seen by many as a soft alternative to Blair, congratulated the Prime Minister on his speech outlining how the Labour Party must continue with privatisation and its foreign policy made at the recent Trade Union Congress. He then confirmed when he is Prime Minister you can expect much of the same.

We need to ensure that the legacy of the Blair government isn't just that our health service and pensions are in line for cuts. But that what lives on is the mass resistance against attacks on services and against imperialist foreign policy.

A Brown government, or a Labour government under the leadership of any of its serious challengers would be little different to the Blair government. So, we need to organise to fight now. Let's start with the mass demonstration against war on September 23rd outside the Labour Party Conference.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Demonstrate!

The Labour Party Conference is fast approaching. Make sure that on September 23rd you don't miss out on what looks set to be a demonstration of thousands of people at Blair's last Labour conference as Prime Minister. There's plenty of reasons to come along: the war on Iraq and Afghanistan, Blair's support for the racist Israeli state, the planned cuts to the NHS and education to name just a few. To find out details of transport from your local area contact Revo on info@worldrevolution.org.uk or go to the Revo or Stop the War websites: www.worldrevolution.org.uk or www.stop-war.org.uk. To join the Revo contingent on the demonstration call 07737 355 411 or look out for the red 'Revolution' flags.

Write for Revo

Whether its a report of an action you've been on, a review of something you've seen, read or heard or just your angry thoughts on what's going on in the world. If you've got something to say about racism, poverty, war and the capitalist system we want to hear it. Send in articles of any length between 100 and 1,000 words to info@worldrevolution.org.uk.

Point and Click?

Attention photographer or just anyone with a camera phone! We're always trying out new things with the Revo magazine ('announcements' and the regular reviews page are the two latest examples) the next issue will be the start of what may become a regular feature: the photo of the month competition. The prize? We'll think of that later... fame, perhaps. If you've got a photo you'd like in the Revo magazine email it to info@worldrevolution.org.uk with the title "Brown, Galloway and Doherty in drug shocker!". Or, if you're feeling swish send it by MMS to 07737 355 411.

New look webboard

This month the Revo web board will be going through another overhaul. For non Revo members this'll mean it'll be easier to talk with other young anti capitalists and to find material previously only available for download at www.worldrevolution.org.uk. For Revo members, as with most things in life, its better. The internal section will now have more resources for communicating nationally and for organising our work. Get posting at: www.revolutionboard.org.uk

The Israeli attacks on Lebanon this summer showed the world the brutal lengths that Israel is prepared to go to in order to "defend itself" or, more accurately, pursue its policy of aggressive expansion and ethnic cleansing. Israel's massive military offensive against Lebanon killed around 1,000 Lebanese civilians and devastated whole villages as well as basic infrastructure like roads, bridges and hospitals.

These barbaric acts, far from being accidental side effects of their campaign, were part of a deliberate policy of collective punishment carried out against the Lebanese population. In retaliation against the capture of two Israel soldiers in Lebanese territory by Hezbollah (ignoring the thousands of Lebanese hostages held in Israel jails) the Chief of Staff of the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) announced the intention to "turn Lebanon's clock back 20 years". The Israeli state was prepared not only to bring the country to ruin, but also to carry out ethnic cleansing against its population: mass bombings were preceded by leaflets telling people to leave their homes and the whole area of Southern Lebanon, leading to the displacement of between 500,000 and 700,000 Lebanese now languishing in refugee camps.

This was not the first such attack on Lebanon - in fact, Hezbollah originated as a militia resisting Israel's previous invasions in 1978, 1982 and 1996, and has earned broad popular support and respect in the region for its ability to do so. Israel's fourth invasion of Lebanon this summer went alongside the continued occupation of the Palestinian territories; after a "ceasefire" was called in mid-August the IDF did not put a stop to its Operation Summer Rain in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which involves constant intimidating low flights and a massive bombardment of homes, workplaces and infrastructure.

The attack on Lebanon is therefore part of a drive for a greater Israel that militarily defeats all the forces opposing it, not just Hezbollah but also Islamic Jihad and Palestine's democratically elected government, Hamas. Their aim has been to turn Lebanon into a weak, disarmed

What is Israel?

buffer state similar to Jordan in the South and America's client dictatorship in Egypt. This would cut off all support to the Palestinians resisting Israel's occupation and force them to accept Israeli terms for a settlement - the lasting peace "on Israeli terms" promised by Sharon's government.

Supposedly this allows for a Palestinian state - so long as this remains completely militarily and economically subordinate to Israel with no control over its borders. This is the reality of the "two-state solution", which would leave Palestine as a patch work quilt of disconnected impoverished cities surrounded by the Israeli army. But even this is too much for the government led by Sharon's successor Olmert, which has actually brought sections of the occupied territories formally into the Israel state. The construction of the apartheid wall to extend and defend illegal settlements continues, with a view to annexing 47% of the West Bank to Israel. As a consequence, 27,000 Palestinians will be forced to get permits to travel from their homes to their places of work.

Essentially, Israel is continuing with a policy it has pursued since its very foundation and before - the forced expulsion of Arabs to make way for its own expansion. Israel was created in 1947 and 1948 by driving out between 500,000 and 800,000 Palestinians. These refugees and their descendants have never been granted the right to return to their homeland - 1.3 million remain in refugee camps in the occupied territories with tens of thousands more in neighbouring Arab states including Lebanon. Israel's racist laws allow any Jewish person from any corner of the globe to settle in Israel but deny the same right to these Palestinian refugees, in order that Israel can sustain an artificial majority of Jews. This is the basis for the very existence of this exclusive, racist, apartheid state.

Luckily for Israel, there are other more powerful states with an interest in its continued existence. Each year Israel receives huge sums in economic and military aid from the United States - the figure for 2005 was an enormous \$2.6 billion, mainly in military aid, plus loan guarantees bringing to the total to some \$10 billion per year. Without this injection of money Israel would not be able to sustain its military capacity that completely outstrips any other power in the region. Israel, geographically only the 151st largest country worldwide, has the fourth largest army in the world thanks to the support given by US imperialism.

In return, the US gets a proxy military force with which to enforce its economic, political and foreign policy in the Middle East. As the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan spark indignation and rebellion of the Arab masses forcing their leaders into a more anti-American stance, the US becomes increasingly dependent on Israel as the only dependable ally it has in this strategically crucial region.

Since its inception Israel has played the role as the watchdog of imperialism in the Middle East; its founder, Theodor Herzl, rallied support for Israel's creation with the words "For Europe we would build there a part of the safety wall against Asia, we will be the outpost of civilisation against barbarism". The purpose of this "spread of civilisation" has always been to expel the Palestinians step-by-step expulsion from their homeland while watching out for imperialist interests in the region. Now Israel continues the process of denying a viable Palestinian state under the guise of the "war on terror", "security" and "self-defence".

Socialists and anti-imperialists need to expose the Israeli state for what it is - a racist settler state terrorising and ethnically cleansing Arab populations - and call for a victory to those forces heroically resisting it. Certainly, we do not support the politics of Islamic movements like Hezbollah and Hamas whose reactionary Islamic ideologies make them unable to unite the oppressed masses of the Middle East on a class basis. While supporting these resistance movements in their struggle against Israel, we must argue for progressive working class forces to come to their head, giving women and those of all religious backgrounds an equal role within them. We must also be clear on what the aim of these movements should be: the destruction of the Israeli state, which will never allow peace in the Middle East, and its replacement by a single, socialist and secular Palestine allowing the refugees to return and granting equal rights to Jews, Muslims and Christians, as part of a United Socialist States of the Middle East.

**by Nat
in Leeds**

REVOLUTION 3



Israeli Repression in Gaza

A year after the dismantling of settlements that was hoped to end the occupation in Gaza, the area remains no more than an open air prison camp constantly under fire from the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF). Not content with their massacre of civilians in Lebanon, the IDF shot and killed a 16 year old Palestinian boy on Wednesday 6th September. This was the seventh Palestinian killed in IDF strikes in Gaza in less than 24 hours: the previous day 4 were killed and 18 wounded in two Israeli airstrikes in the Rafah refugee camp in southern Gaza. Despite eyewitness reports to the contrary, the IDF consistently deny that any of their victims are civilians.

Since IDF soldier Gilad Shalit was captured in a cross border raid by Palestinian militants in June, Israeli forces have been operating in Gaza's refugee camps to target Hamas militants, and have not ceased these attacks even after a deal to release Shalit was reached. Airstrikes have targeted buildings and vehicles identified by Israel as being used by militants, but these buildings are often in residential areas and inhabited by civilians. Israel will not spare any Palestinians in this collective punishment for the capture of one soldier - a severe hypocrisy in the face of

the 1000s of Palestinian men, women and children held in Israeli prisons.

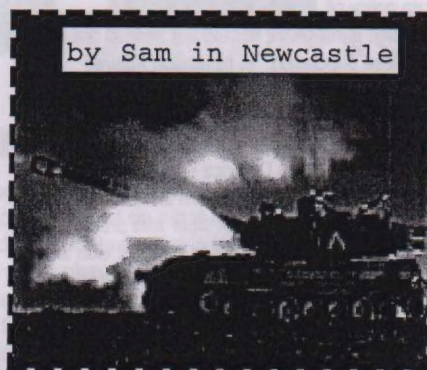
Additionally, the Palestinian government has been in financial crisis since the democratic election of the Hamas government this March. In response to Hamas's refusal to recognise the legitimacy of Israel as a racist Jewish-only state or renounce its right to self-defence against Israeli attacks, the Palestinian people have been collectively punished by an economic, political and military siege. The US and EU have cut off aid to Palestine, threatening food and water supplies and the US has banned Americans from doing any business with Hamas.

It is impossible for the country to function without such aid, since Israel's expanding and violent occupation has displaced Palestinians to refugee camps and settlements on land which is unfertile and difficult to cultivate. The economic blockade leaves Palestine with neither sufficient water and food nor the ability to pay salaries. This has led to strikes and protests by Palestinian teachers, civil servants, security and armed forces.

We must support the right of Palestinians to elect their choice of government without the threat of starvation and financial ruin from the

West. While we condemn Hamas's terrorist attacks on civilians and disagree profoundly with their reactionary religious ideology, we nevertheless fully support them in their fight against the terrorist state of Israel. Nidal Khader, a security guard organising one of the protests, called on the workers involved to unite with Hamas to fight against Israel, the US and EU as the cause of their economic oppression. Socialists support such unity in action, but also call for the workers to come to the head of the resistance movements, fighting not only for national liberation but also for socialism. Victory to the intifada!

by Sam in Newcastle



new racist powers target asians at airports

The Times announced this August that racial profiling is to be introduced at UK airports, specifically targeting 'young Muslim men'. Police will use these racist powers to target black and Asian people in the same way that they use their current stop and search powers.

The stop and search powers given to the police under the Terror Act allow them to stop anyone they suspect to be involved in terrorism, in the year 2004-5 100 people every day were stopped and searched under these new powers and only 1.2% arrested and not a single person convicted of terror-related offences. It is clear that these laws do not in any way help prevent terrorism, so why are they being extended? It is a method of police intimidation of minority ethnic groups, targeting people that police view as stereotypical terrorists - i.e. non-white young males - and subjecting them to be searched and sometimes even arrested.

Equally normal stop and search powers that are used to intimi-

date mainly black and Asian youth (black people are eight times more likely and Asian people three times more likely to be stopped and searched than white people), which very rarely lead to arrest and conviction. The youth stopped and searched are always suspected of having committed a burglary or to be in the possession of drugs, but the low arrest rates show that stop and search is just a formalisation of racist and youth oppressive policing. Anybody can be stopped and searched, but the police use their powers to concentrate on the harassment of oppressed groups.

Racial profiling and stop and search (terror-related or not) are just part of the increased powers given to police in the 'War on Terror' that enable them to arbitrarily target and intimidate black and Asian people in Britain. It allows the police to be able to target people that have committed no crime and with no evidence of any crime having been committed and serves to give the government and it's police force greater control over the population, all in the name of public wellbeing.

IMF CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE...

The dictates from the IMF and WB had by that year effectively broken the back off the Argentinian economy, robbed even the middle classes and led to rising levels of poverty, unemployment and working insecurity. The revolt of the students, workers and poor in Argentina inspired and sharpened resistance in many other Latin American countries and also on other continents.

In taking part in this movement we are not only fighting against the institutions of global capitalism - we argue that this fight must be integrated in an all-out fight against the very system of

capitalism itself! We want to replace the system of global capitalism, imperialist war and corporate super-exploitation and robbery with a socialist system based on democratic planning, solidarity between the working class in every part of the world and fight for an end to the dictatorship of capital. We are not there yet - but we clearly think that this is the way forward for our movement.

In the here and now we declare our complete solidarity with our comrades and all the others who will gather in protests, for example in Batam Island (Indonesia) and in Singapore itself, to protest against the meeting of the IMF and WB. We condemn the government of Singapore, a puppet

government of US imperialism, for its banning of all demonstrations against the top summit and declare our solidarity with all who resist this despite the threat of repression. We need to stop these meetings and we need to tear down these institutions in the fight against capitalism and imperialism. We need to force the governments in the countries dependent on the loans of the IMF and WB not to pay back one more cent. We need to an ever greater extent the working class and oppressed to make this fight its own.

This statement was cut due to lack of space. The full version can be read at www.worldrevolution.info or www.worldrevolution.org.uk

Labour's treatment leaves the NHS sick

BY JOHN IN LEEDS



the madness of ASBOs continues

In a few days trade union staff in NHS logistics, the part of the NHS responsible for delivering and haulage of hospital equipment will be balloted for strike action over government proposals to privatise the service. This comes as part of a long project by New Labour to massively increase the role of private corporations in supplying us (or not) with healthcare originally founded upon the principal of 'free care on the point of demand' when the NHS was first set up in 1948.

This project to increase the role of business in healthcare was started by Thatcher in the 1980s, and like many of the neo-liberal reforms we are seeing in Britain today in all our public services, has been carried on and massively extended by the party which claims to represent the interests of the working class. So how does the further reach of the private sector into our health service affect the patients who rely on the care it provides?

Private Finance Initiative (PFI), a key term now associated with the NHS relies on a large injection of cash by private companies in order to fund new buildings for hospitals. All this sounds good news, and indeed there have been many new departments and modern buildings funded in this way around the country. However, with business, there is no such thing as a free lunch and hospital trusts rather than the Department of Health are required to pay the money back with extortionate rates of interest.

To make the savings that will allow for this, the "largest hospital-building programme in the history of the NHS" is actually accompanied by the largest hospital closure programme in the NHS. The first PFI hospitals were forced to pay for their loans by reducing their bed space by an average of 30% and reducing the salaries of frontline staff by about 25%. Thus the PFI disaster has been a major attack on both staff and patients for one sordid purpose - an increase in profits for the shareholders and the fat-cats.

Another aspect of corporate profit put before patients has been the outsourcing of operations to private healthcare companies in the form of 'independent treatment centres'. Paying for private healthcare for patients in this way costs the NHS 40% more than work done in NHS establishments.

In addition to this waste of taxpayer's money, treatment at private centres has often been substandard with companies like Netcare ophthalmology failing to provide decent post operation care and adequate on-call staff. Another company, Medical Alliance was awarded a £95 million five year scans contract with the Department of Health but was not registered with the Healthcare Commission and therefore did not have to conform to NHS standards of care. This again shows up Blair as a tool of the bosses, allowing good value and quality care to be sacrificed for the sake of profit.

But like the Unison members in NHS logistics, a fight back against the Blair Rich Project has been steadily emerging with a recent victory in Derbyshire against the privatisation of a local Primary Care Trust as the trust was found guilty in court of failing to inform the public how private contracts would be awarded. In North Manchester, 10,000 have signed a petition against the moving of A&E services to Bury and Oldham putting hundreds at risk, delaying a decision until December. Protests against cuts have also taken place in Sheffield, Liverpool, Nottingham, Pontefract and Lancaster.

Such action is good, but it must be taken much further if we are to hit NHS privatisation at its heart. We must use September 23rd and the demonstrations outside the Labour Party conference to demand an end to Blair, an end to his party of war, racism, poverty and privatisation and an end to the capitalist system which puts profit before people.

Tony Blair announced in late August that the government was to take a new initiative to tackle anti-social behaviour - to identify which working class families were likely to have anti-social children and force them to accept 'help' from the government. This help is not in the form of abortion on demand, not free childcare, not more benefits for parents with low incomes. Its community support officers handing out parenting orders and ASBOs.

Blair identified single mothers as one of the main 'risk' areas; as people whose children were most likely to commit crimes against society. He said that 'some sense of discipline and responsibility' was needed. Young people will now be identified 'pre-birth' as those likely to become a 'menace to society' and they and their families will be forced to accept help and advice from community centres and support officers or be faced with sanctions. So ASBOs are now being handed out before we're even born.

He blamed the dysfunctional family relations in single parent households for anti-social behaviour, ignoring, of course, the poverty that drives people to crime and forces single parents to work long hours, unable to afford child care and leave their kids at home alone.

So, another piece of sexist and youth oppressive legislation from the Blair government - blaming single mothers for not enforcing discipline on their children, blaming the lack of a father figure, blaming anything but poverty and capitalism. Young people don't commit crimes because they don't have a Dad, they commit crimes because they don't have anything, because their parents work all week for a wage that barely covers the necessities and often doesn't even go that far.

It brands all working class youth as yobs and criminals. Being young is not a crime, being working class is not a crime, and being a single parent is not a crime. What is criminal is the discrimination against people for being poor. Tony Blair wants to lay the blame for the problems of capitalism at the feet of single mothers and rally support from the middle class by looking like he's dealing with the problem of 'anti-social youth'. Diverting attention from the real problems of the state of the housing and education systems, unemployment, the NHS, and lack of resources for young people. These are the real problems of capitalism, and can't be blamed on single mothers or working class youth. They can't be solved with ASBOs and Community Support Officers; we need to tackle the source of poverty and inequality across the world.

REVOLUTION 5

THE LABOUR PARTY: A HISTORY OF SELLING OUT WORKING PEOPLE

The end of summer saw Labour in crisis. Junior Government Ministers resigned, rumours of secret letters flew round the press and leading Blairite supporter Charles Clarke described Chancellor Gordon Brown- Labour leader in waiting- as 'absolutely stupid'. Dozens of newspaper front pages, thousands of column inches and scores of rumours have discussed when Blair will go from office.

What had happened was that supporters of Gordon Brown had launched a coup to try and get Tony Blair to resign in the next six months in the hope that this would avoid an electoral meltdown at the Welsh, Scottish and local elections next May. For a moment it looked like full scale civil war was about to break out but Tony Blair was able to halt the cavalry charge by publicly confirming he would not be Prime Minister in a years time. But, while this fued between two careerist parliamentarians explodes across our TV screens, the real content of the mass disillusionment with this government is ignored. If Brown takes over we will see more of the same - privatisation of public services, racist attacks on asylum seekers and migrants and, of course, continued support for a brutal colonial war being waged in the Middle East by the United States.

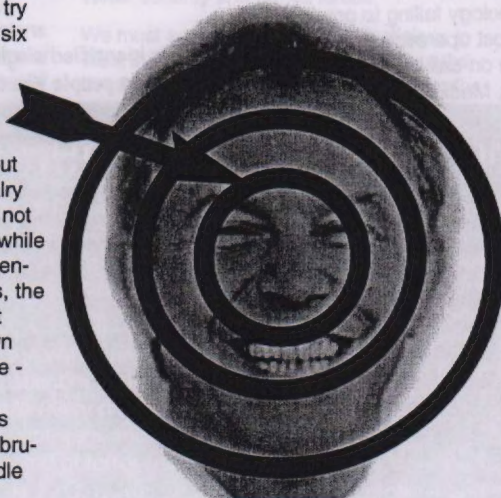
Many people disillusioned with Labour blame its current state on the turn to 'New Labour' in 1994 where, to use

Labourspeak, the party 'modernised' away from its 'Old Labour' past. What this meant was a shift rightwards. This is often summed up in the change in Clause 4 of the Labour Party constitution from one which spoke of securing for the working class "the full fruits of their industry" and "common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange" to one that just talked about "common endeavour", rights reflecting duties and "a spirit of solidarity, tolerance and respect". This was an important symbolic abandonment of the ideas of socialist common ownership. Of course, the practice of the Labour party in government had always meant that it had remained just that - a nice idea - rather than something the party consciously set out to achieve.

Labour had always been a party that rested on working class support at elections but governed for the capitalists when in power.

Where did the Labour party come from?

Up until 1906 the bosses had their parties in the shape of the Liberals and the Tories who were financed by business and ruled in its interests but the working class had no independent party to fight for its interests.



We all need to fight to kick the warmonger out but who do we replace new labour with? Not Gordon...

The Labour Party was formed out of a growing realisation amongst workers that the Tories and Liberal's were ruling class parties and they need a party of their own. This was in the same spirit as the drive to collectively defend working class interests that spurred the growth of trade unions. For workers to realise they needed their own party as well as trade unions showed they were beginning to understand that the bosses didn't just rule in the factory, they ruled through parliament, the courts and the police. This had to be confronted by a working class organised to fight for political power.

Two important disputes in the late 19th and

early 20th century showed how the state would defend the bosses rather than workers. These were the 1899 Lyons vs. Wilkins court case and the 1901 Taff Vale case, both between trade unions and the employers. The first one of these cases involved a Tory judge ruling that it was illegal for trade unionists to form picket lines outside workplaces and the second case effectively outlawed all strike action by

demanding that a union paid the employer the cost of all trade lost during a strike. The judgements on each of these cases led to an increase in support for the 'Labour Representation Committee' (the organisation which preceded the Labour Party) and after winning 29 seats in the 1906 elections the LRC changed its name to the Labour Party.

The Labour Party of 1906 was very different to that of 2006. Whereas the early Labour Party was born out of the expansion of trade unions into previously unorganised sections of the working class, the Labour Party of today defends the anti union laws brought in by the Thatcher government in the 1980s. The early Labour Party drew in politicised and radicalised workers who were under attack from the Tories and the bosses, today many workers are moving away from Labour because of their attacks.

This makes 'old' and 'new' Labour sound worlds apart but in fact the politics of concession and compromise with the ruling class was present in Labour's politics from the very beginning. Between 1910 and 1914 there was a huge upruption of class struggle with millions out on strike. The British army was sent in to towns by the Liberal government to defeat strikes and some strikers were even shot.

There was ample opportunity to make the vision of "common ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange" a reality by rallying the working class into a struggle for socialism, using its seats in parliament to denounce the Liberals and Conservatives as class enemies and using its base in the trade unions and working class communities to take the fight for working class power in society. This is where the masses take hold of industry to run it themselves, break up the apparatus of state repression and form a new democratic state to defend working people.

The Labour Party didn't do this. Even before the "great unrest" of the 1910s it argued against its candidates standing on an overtly socialist platform. Also the gap between the MPs and the grassroots of the party emerged very early on. At the 1907 conference a resolution was rejected that meant MPs were bound to conference decisions. The rejection of this wasn't just unde-

mocratic but had a political implication: it meant that Labour MPs who were supposed to fight the corner of the working class in parliament weren't obliged to carry out the policy decided on by the working class membership of the party. This left the door open to opportunism and careerism amongst the politicians.

Labour was always a capitalist workers party

However, the problem with the Labour Party was more fundamental than a lack of organisational democracy. The Labour Party's biggest problem was that while it was formally in favour of the emancipation of the working class and the socialisation of the means of production it didn't possess the means to do so: revolutionary politics.

The leaders of the Labour Party have always been under the illusion that capitalism can simply be reformed away through pro working class legislation. This is utopian. But not only that, to paraphrase the German revolutionary Rosa Luxemburg, reformism and revolutionary politics aren't different means to the same end - they lead to different ends.

Reformism has two key flaws. First, whilst reforms can make the conditions of the working class better they can be reversed if the bosses need to and the working class don't stop them. The reintroduction of tuition fees for universities, privatisation and the recent pension 'reforms' are all examples of this. Second, whilst reformists can ameliorate the lot of the working class through laws to improve conditions this is always done within the framework of capitalist society and see the state as the main instrument for achieving reforms when in fact the state is actually the main instrument the bosses use to uphold their interests. This is why, when society enters periods of crisis, reformists will often back the repressive actions of the state against workers because they see it as legitimate or necessary. This can be seen most clearly in the

Labour Party's support for the First World War in 1914 where the British working class was sent out to die in a brutal imperialist war for profit and empire.

So, the Labour we see today isn't just the result of a few bad apples. Its fundamental to what the Labour party is:

a party that claims to govern for workers when in fact it rules for the bosses. That's why revolutionaries call Labour a capitalist workers party - trade unions at the base, capitalist policies at the top.

What's the alternative?

As we approach Blair's resignation the legacy of the Labour government will be remembered as one of war, racism and poverty. However, its not all bad news there is also a 'legacy' of resistance to Blair's attacks.

Over 2 million people demonstrated against the Iraq war in 2003, this summer 100,000 people demonstrated against Israel's war on Lebanon and the UK's support for Israel.

At the beginning of September Tony Blair was greeted with shouts of "rubbish" at the Trade Union Congress when he tried to defend Labour's education reforms that allowed business and private donors to take over the running of schools. Many trade unionists, like council workers, postal workers and fire fighters have taken strike action against Labour's attacks since they've been in office.



On the front during the First World War. Labour and its sister parties across Europe all supported the conflict

On September 23rd a huge demonstration will take place outside the Labour party conference in Manchester around slogan "time to go"; Blair from office and from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Many people are deeply disgruntled and angry with the Labour government, but what's the alternative?

Whilst the Labour Party still has the financial support of the vast majority of the trade unions in Britain this is in large part because of the strength of the bureaucratic trade union leaderships who are desperate to maintain their unions ties to Labour. The Labour party continues to depend on large financial donations from the big unions.

REVOLUTION believes we need a new party of the working class that can learn from the mistakes of the Labour Party and act as a pole of attraction to all those facing the brutal effects of capitalism.

We need a new party to stand in elections and challenge Labour but it can't stop their. It has to be a socialist, class struggle party of the streets that fights for the "common ownership" of production through revolutionary struggle. It needs to be clear from the outset that capitalism cannot be

reformed out of existence but must be overthrown in a revolution that breaks up the repressive state that defends the system.

If these revolutionary ideas were taken into the Labour party at the very beginning its whole direction of development could have been changed. Large sections of workers could have been broken from reformist trade union politics and won to the need for a revolutionary party.

Let's learn the lessons and go 'forward' to a communist party 'not back' to Labour in the 21st century.



**THE SPIN MACHINE
LABOUR CLAIM BRITAIN
IS GETTING BETTER**



**THE REALITY
GETTING WORSE: FOR
BRITAIN AND THE WORLD**

Why the US and UK need to be driven out of the Middle East now!

The war waged on Iraq by the United States and Britain has left thousands and thousands of innocent Iraqis dead. Their crime? To live in a country with the second largest oil reserves in the world, reserves the billionaire oil bosses want to control.

It was the most cowardly war ever. The strongest state in history launched billions of dollars worth of hi-tech weaponry against a cruelly impoverished country, one that was systematically starved of food and medicine for over a decade by United Nations imposed sanctions following the first Gulf War.

Yet, after three years of occupation, they still have not won. Instead, they have thrown Iraq into chaos and disorder, struggling to install a puppet government through phony elections. In a desperate attempt to establish their power, they have tried to play the old game of 'divide and rule' amongst Iraq's ethnic and religious communities. The result? Terrible sectarian violence and the threat of all out ethno-religious civil war.

Their own forces are under constant attack by an increasingly popular, determined and well-armed resistance. The number of US casualties now stands at 2,667 - by far the greatest death toll for its forces since Vietnam. Afghanistan tells a similar story, and is described by Generals as the 'most intensive armed combat' involving British forces since the Second World War.

In the 'Summer War' US/UK-backed Israeli forces launched a horrific military offensive against the people of Lebanon. But rather than the surrender and quick victory they hoped for, Hezbollah brought the war 'back home' to Israel, launching daily rocket attacks against its cities.

Is it really a war against terrorism?

The "war on terror" has left hundreds of thousands dead and plunged the whole Middle East region into crisis. The Islamic terrorists and their supporters, far from being put on the back foot, have grown in size and support in this time. Why? Because millions of people across the Middle East are seeing their countries under siege, occupation and suffering plunder. The Islamists tell them that this is because the Christian infidels, led by

George Bush, are launching a crusade against Islam which only the Islamists will resist.

Each cluster bomb dropped on an Afghan village leaving fifty civilians dead, each Israeli rocket attack on Gaza, swells their ranks.

The arguments of the US and UK governments have become all the more desperate. The Blair government condemns anyone who argues that terrorist attacks in

London may be caused by the actions of the US and UK governments in the Middle East. It argues that this provides an 'excuse' for terrorism, and that the real problem is

Islamic fundamentalism, which must continue to be met with overwhelming force.

The anti-war movement has repeatedly been attacked for siding with reactionaries. In 2003 when US and UK tanks poured across the Iraqi border the movement was accused of aiding our nation's enemies, of putting British soldiers at risk. In essence they accused us of treason - of aiding the defeat of 'our own' country at the hands of a foreign power.

This is a simple idea: we should support our country. Even if we don't support the reasons for this war, when the shooting starts we are supposed to remember that we are British. Anyone who doesn't will be accused of letting down their friends, family and community. The patriotic slogan is "my country, right or wrong", or as Cartman once put it in an episode of South Park, "If you don't support the team, get out of the stadium".

This patriotism is a gigantic fraud. It rests on a lie: that all British people have the same interests, different from those of all Iraqi people. In fact, the interests of working class people and youth in Britain are the opposite of the billionaire British oil and arms companies - a postal worker in London has more in common with oil workers in Basra, also resisting privatization and exploitation. Our interests are based on our class, not on our country. That is why the forces that back the war most aggressively are those closest to millionaires and the elites - US owned newspapers like the Sun, the pro-business New Labour clique around Blair, the Tories and the City of London.

This is not and never has been a war against terrorism. Iraq's oil reserves are being plundered by US companies and its people suffer daily oppression and hardship all so the US can establish its control. Across the Middle East, any state or movement that defies the US is condemned as 'rogue' and threatened with 'regime change' - the installation of a pliant pro-US puppet government that supports privatization, plunder and attacks on workers.

Drive the US and UK out of the Middle East now!

The true war aims of the US and UK governments can be summarized as: theft and domination. If we oppose them, then we must also desire their defeat in this war. We want them to fail to seize the oil wells, to fail to intimidate regimes across the third world, to fail to enforce the global system of debt and unfair trade rules, to fail to carve out a new order in the Middle East based on US, British and Israeli occupation of Arab land. Already we can hear the cries of indignation - "traitor", "apologist for Islamic Extremism". Of course, Al Qaeda and their supporters are reactionaries, who oppose democracy and oppress women. We do not for a moment give them our support, unlike the US government, which did deals with Bin Laden to fight the USSR. We condemn their sectarian attacks on civilians in Iraq. But, we do defend the right of the Iraqis, the Afghans and the Palestinians, to resist occupation. We support every attack on the "Coalition" forces, who are there to plunder and pillage the Middle East. Democracy can only be established by the people of the Middle East through their own mass action, after the hundreds of thousands of troops occupying their country are driven out.

The way to stop religious reactionaries winning the masses to their side is for Communists to be at the forefront of the resistance to imperialism. We must show in practice that the Islamists betray the struggle. Why? Because they do not allow women to fight, they do not advocate seizing the property of the rich because they themselves have rich backers, they do not mobilize the working class en masse to defeat the imperialists, and they launch terrible, divisive, sectarian attacks on civilians. Instead the masses must be won to a global struggle against imperialism and capitalism.



Bravery: an elderly woman waves the Palestine flag over the gun of an Israeli tank

REVOLUTION 8

5 years on from the September 11th Terrorist Attacks

On September 11th 2002, a devastating terrorist attack on the World Trade Centre gave US imperialism the pretext for launching the War on Terror, an offensive to secure control over the world's people and to pacify the unstable but oil-rich and strategically important Middle East. This led to the brutal wars in Afghanistan, shortly after September 11th, and then Iraq from March 2003.

Both of these wars became occupations which continue to this day, with 150,000 US troops currently bogged down by guerilla fighters in Iraq and Afghanistan. A few days ago the Taliban leader described the fate of the troops currently in Afghanistan: "We have confined the British to their barracks where they are anticipating their deaths and having sleepless nights. Their positioning is weakening daily". Meanwhile in Iraq, the Defense Department is having to admit that attacks by the resistance have got worse, with insurgency attacks at historically high levels.

The attack on Iraq was always incredibly unpopular internationally, but it began with some support from within the US. Today, however, 60% of Americans oppose it and the US anti-war movement is on the rise, while opposition to the War on Terror is a key reason that Blair is under so much pressure in the UK.

Bush and his lapdog, Blair, are losing these wars on the home front, and also on the ground, as the resistance to their imperi-

alist occupations strengthens. The invasion of Lebanon was an act of desperation arising from the failure to pacify Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon and Palestine under pro-US regimes. Bush and Blair hoped that a war "by proxy" would be more likely to secure their control. But they were proved wrong: despite the brutality unleashed on the Lebanese population and infrastructure, Israel's attack on Lebanon failed to defeat the Hezbollah fighters or advance more than a few kilometres into Southern Lebanon.

The "endless war" pursued by the imperialists since September 11th, aimed at seizing wealth and oil reserves and convincing the oppressed and exploited worldwide that there is no alternative but submission to global capitalism and US domination, is not winning. Hezbollah, the Palestinian and Iraqi resistance and the antiwar movement around the world have shown that imperialism can be resisted and defeated. And if the resistance goes on the offensive, imperialism can also be overthrown, meaning the end of these "endless" wars.



THE HIDDEN STORY BEHIND YOUR IPOD

Apple's "Ipod" MP3 player has recently been added to the dictionary and no wonder- last year 22.5million were bought worldwide. That's a staggering 61,644 a day. The story of the iPod marketing craze is well known but the hidden tale of exploitation behind their production is less so.

iPods carry the text "Designed in California, made in China". This is because like most multi-national companies Apple outsource the majority of their production to poor states in search of low wages.

In Longhua, near Hong Kong is the largest plant in mainland China; it is dedicated to making Apple computers and iPods. 20,000 people work and sleep in the factory compound making this iPod factory about the size of a small English town. The conditions though would not be familiar to many workers in the UK. 100 workers are packed into each dormitory and no visitors are allowed. They work up to 15 hour shifts, often six days in a row for pitiful wages as low as £27 a month - this is low even for China. Zang Lhan, 21, has worked on the assembly line for a month and says of the conditions: 'We have to work too hard and I am always tired. It's like being in the army. They make us stand still for hours. If we move we are punished by being made to stand still for longer. The boys are made to do

push-ups.'

Another site in China, near Shanghai, is the size of eight football pitches and employs 50,000 workers. Although they are slightly better paid here at £54 a month, accommodation is not provided free and over half the wage goes on dormitories and food. Working up to 12 hour days their only freedom is the walk to and from work. The majority of the workers at this factory are female, employed on the premise that they are more honest. In reality like elsewhere in the global south, the entry of women into the workforce, is from the bosses a purely economic question - they are made to work for less. They also hope in vain that women are more docile and less likely to revolt against the appalling conditions.

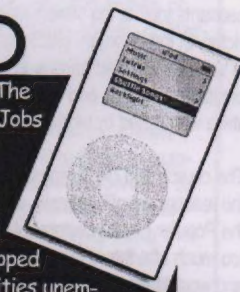
This is a feature of the world in which we live and is not just happening in China. All over the global south and east women are making up huge portions of the workforce in sweatshops and garment factories. They are subject to awful conditions and treatment including sexual harassment and compulsory pregnancy testing at work. Each iPod Nano made in the sweatshops in China costs £41 to produce and yet in the West they sell for between £109 and £179. These figures explain the enormous profits made by Apple, one of the richest

companies in the world. The founder of Apple, Steve Jobs has a \$3 billion fortune.

In Britain and the developed world, factories and call centres are being shipped over seas leaving communities unemployed, while in the poor states the workers are subject to super exploitation. The only people who benefit are the bosses.

So should we all throw out our iPods in protest at Apple's Chinese sweatshops? No, of course not.

To boycott every product made in a sweatshop would be near impossible as most consumer goods from clothes to computers are made in unethical conditions. The real solution to the exploitation faced in the south and east is to organise the working class to fight the bosses for higher wages, better conditions and even take control of factories themselves. This is already happening all over the world. Even in China where the government is highly repressive, strikes are occurring more and more. The challenge we face is building up the international solidarity, and fighting for the struggles to take up to the goal of revolution against global capitalism to break our chains.



On March 28th 1939 a dark shadow fell across Spain as troops under the command of fascist General, Francisco Franco, marched into Madrid. Two months earlier Franco's troops had taken Barcelona, once the centre of the revolution, almost totally unopposed. Around the world workers mourned another defeat at the hands of fascism, and cursed the treacherous betrayals of the Soviet Union and the Communist International, which had helped strangle the strongest working class revolution since 1917.

The 1930s saw massive political upheaval in Spain following the downfall of King Alfonso XIII and his puppet dictator de Rivera. Workers and peasants pushed the new government to its limits, and in 1934 armed miners led an uprising which formed the Asturian Commune in northern Spain. The worried republican government turned to the reactionary officer caste of the military to defend Spanish capitalism and the Asturian Commune was repressed with immense force. The Republican right-wing went on the march and inflicted two years of devastating repression against workers, peasants and the organised left.

In January 1936 the 'People's Government' (or Popular Front) was formed, comprising of liberal bourgeois parties, as well as the USSR-controlled PCE (Spanish Communist Party) and the reformist Socialist party. The front promised only piecemeal land and social reforms and the workers and peasants took to the streets as it swept to victory in the February elections. Workers in Valencia stormed prisons to free incarcerated comrades, and in April a general strike was called by workers in Madrid.

The church and big business, backed by the reactionary officer caste, decided that the Popular Front government presented too much of a threat to ruling class stability and would face the same brutal fate as the Asturia uprising they had crushed. On July 17th 1936, forces led by Franco landed in southern Spain from Morocco and The Canaries. Garrisons across the country mutinied and joined the fascist forces in a coup against the government.

Now the Republican government faced a dilemma: defeating the fascists without allowing its own overthrow through a workers' revolution. Rather than arming the population to defend the country adequately, they would have to rely on what was left of Spain's rickety and poorly equipped armed forces. The support they were offered from France was nothing compared to the reinforcements from Germany, Italy and Portugal that Franco could rely on and within two days of the coup, the fascists had seized one third of the country. Workers and peasants organised their own defence, storming police stations and garrisons to arm themselves.

Across the Basque country, Catalonia and much of Spain workers and peasants were organised into militias, primarily around the C.N.T./F.A.I. anarcho-syndicalist union federation, which had 100,000s of members, and secondarily the militia of the 30,000-strong POUM (Workers Party of Marxist Unity). These forces effected the civil war's first major victory: defending Barcelona from

France and seizing the city under work-

ers' control once the fascists were driven out. As the militias advanced across Aragon in the north and held cities across the country, they occupied and collectivised land, taking industry and infrastructure under worker's control. The government's fear of revolution was becoming all too real, and by September 1936 only Mexico was left in support of the Spanish government as France withdrew its backing.

Although the POUM and C.N.T. militia, organised into local revolutionary committees, put up a heroic fight, political problems with the way forward were developing. Whilst the POUM were Marxists and believed in the need for a revolutionary workers' state to defend the revolution post-capitalism, the anarchist-led C.N.T. were the larger

representation.

From having been in a position of serious influence in the local revolutionary committees, the POUM and C.N.T. had now been co-opted and their leadership harnessed by the bourgeoisie. For example in Lerida, a POUM stronghold, Nin courted the bourgeoisie arguing that the powers of the revolutionary committees should be drastically reduced, while all radical actions he proposed (e.g. seizure of property, nationalisation of banks, land collectivisation) were wholeheartedly rejected by the government. The POUM remained silent, and even opened the way for government agents to be allowed onto the Factory committees - into the very heart of the revolution.

With the POUM and C.N.T. on the government, the militia was integrated into a new Popular Army alongside Republican Assault Guards, the Guardia Civil and the Police, making it entirely reliant on their supply of arms from the USSR. Immediately the Stalinist USSR, fearful of its own downfall should a genuine revolution break out in Spain, used this stranglehold to weaken the revolution, banning women from the front and putting the militia under the command of the military General Staff rather than the revolutionary committees.

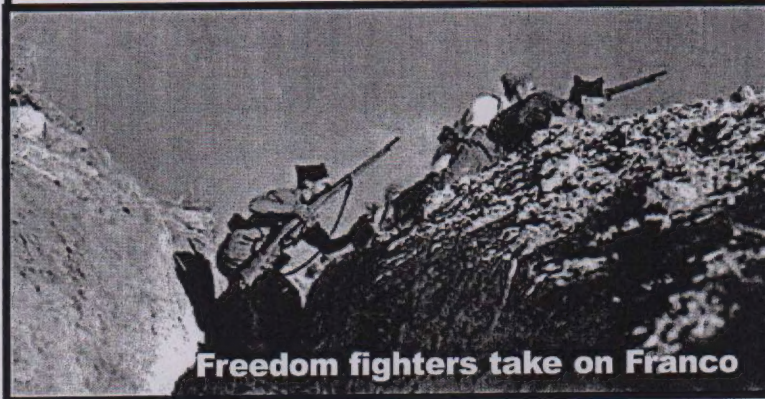
Where the militia were lacking in weapons, the Republican troops were equipped and took their place. In May 1937 Assault Guards of the government were sent to retake the Telephone Exchange in Barcelona, held since the start of the civil war by the C.N.T. After days of brutal fighting and a city-wide strike in support of the C.N.T., a division of "neutral" assault guards were brought in from Valencia; the Telephone Exchange and other parts of the infrastructure previously held by the workers were handed back to the government.

Similar attacks and arrests of the anti-Stalinist left occurred across the country.

In the face of military attack from the governments and the fascists, the fighters of the revolution were beginning

The Spanish Civil War: the defeat of a revolution

a revolutionary history lesson from James R in Liverpool



Freedom fighters take on Franco

and more influential organisation. They refused on principle to bring about even low levels of centralisation, believing any sort of move towards a state to be wrong. The POUM's leader Andres Nin refused to criticise the C.N.T.'s idealistic strategy for a revolution without a revolutionary party or democratic centralisation, leading the POUM towards compromise with the mistakes of libertarianism.

The lack of a centralised soviet structure of government among revolutionary forces was making it increasingly difficult to supply the Aragon front with arms, even though most of Spain's industrial capacity was under workers control. Despite the left-wing criticisms heaped on the PCE's approach to the Popular Front the POUM's newspaper, Nin's refusal to fight for a democratically centralised soviet system left the POUM simply arguing for a tweaked version of the popular front (i.e. one that included the POUM and C.N.T.) and on September 7th the bourgeois government offered the two organisations rep-

certainly not short on numbers: a meeting of the workers organisations in 1936



to pay for the POUM and C.N.T.'s political mistakes. Having used the POUM and C.N.T. ministers to weaken the revolutionary committees and distract from the need for soviets and, the government dispensed with them at the end of 1936. By June 1937 the POUM was outlawed and Nin and the leadership arrested and executed, and any public criticism of the Soviet Union was banned. The C.N.T. militias were being pushed further and harder than ever before, but with the command structure in the hands of the government no reinforcements or supplies were being sent to them, and thousands were being killed in each new battle with the nationalists.

By 1938 what was left of the POUM had either been rounded up and arrested by the government, or completely integrated into the Popular Army. The C.N.T. returned to simply co-ordinating the struggle in particular autonomous areas, unwilling and incapable of leading the revolution nationally. Whilst bloody battles still raged in cities across Spain, over the next year city after city would fall, until fascist troops marched into the once revolutionary city of Barcelona with not a single member of the militia left to oppose them.

Through a combination of political errors by its leaders,

and a calculated plot to bring it down from within by the Stalinists, the Spanish revolution had been lost. Whilst the years 1930-39 are often paraded as a point proof of the success of anarchist organisation and theory, in fact the opposite is true. The events of the Spanish Revolution are a damning indictment of the weakness of decentralised organisation and political compromise. The C.N.T.'s rejection of the need for state power, combined with the POUM's failure to criticise incorrect method, presented a wide open chance for the traitors of the Soviet Union to wrap the revolution up, even if it meant losing Spain to the fascists.

the reviews



CLASS STRUGGLE IN EARLY 20TH CENTURY BRITAIN

The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists by Robert Tressell, 1911

In the introduction to my copy of *The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists*, Adam Sillitoe asks, 'What relevance has this novel today? Not a difficult question, in that its relevance is simply that of a good book that ought to be read.' He recognises that the novel depicts class struggle in Edwardian society, but denies that such a thing exists today to which Robert Tressell's semi-autobiographical book can be compared.

Tressell, a left-wing house painter with tuberculosis writing about a left-wing house painter with tuberculosis, depicts the misery of British working-class life in the early 1900s. His protagonist, Owen, is a 'socialist' who spends the novel trying to convince his work-mates that

capitalism is the cause of their poverty and that socialism is the solution.

Although Owen is described in the book as a socialist and Tressell himself is generally regarded as such, his alliances lie with the newly-established labour party and his faith is in left-reformism. The Labour Party of 1906 (when this book is set) was nothing like the Blair government of today. It was full of left-reformists like Owen, who wanted to change the system but thought they could do so through parliament. The main political failure of the novel is the lack of a revolutionary understanding of society- that the bourgeoisie will not peacefully allow themselves and their

economic system to be legislated out of power.

Owen and Barrington (another socialist) are asked by the other workers to give them a series of lectures on reformist theory. This may be quite a dull format for a novel if it weren't that most of the workers are less than interested in Owen's ideas and simply put him on a soap box to simply make a show of him and amuse themselves with heckling. This would make for quite a depressing series of chapters, if it weren't that Owen calmly obliterates every single one of his Tory and Liberal colleagues.

Through the force of his arguments, Owen recruits a small band of working men to supporting the Labour Party. He fails however to do much with them and repeatedly sinks to states of depression when contemplating the financial and social situations of his family and those around him. Although a fantastic orator, Owen's mental and physical health prevent him throughout the novel from acting on his ideas and make him a very tragic figure.

The humour in the book - the way in which Tressell makes anecdotes about hopeless destitution bring a smile to your face - makes it totally believable that the story is written by a man who experienced everything he wrote. It shows how and why every person who suffers can find humour in their life, and the tragedy of the story is a call to action rather than a declaration of defeat. Tressell's tale is an explanation of what makes humanity worth fighting for; what makes socialism necessary.

The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists takes a snapshot view of one year in one town in England and tells a real story about working people struggling against a society that impoverishes and oppresses them.

The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists is published by Penguin for around £6.50, second hand copies can be found on Amazon for as little as £3.50 as we went to press.

By Rebecca, Manx

11 REVOLUTION

THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE BARLEY

- Ken Loach, 2006

By Jo, Leeds



Ken Loach's film about Irish Republicanism won the Best Film award at the prestigious Cannes film festival. It begins during the IRA's guerrilla war against the British in the early 1920's and ends with the creation of the free state in 1922 after the civil war.

The release of the film was met with horror by the mainstream British press who accused it of being disgustingly one-sided and simply a denunciation of British beastliness. But the film is not just about demonising British soldiers, it is about what Ireland endured in its struggle for independence.

In fact Loach's depiction of the brutality of the British army in Ireland is so powerful and honest because he doesn't fall into the trap of "liberal balance", that it would be okay to show the torture of innocent Irish people if the British soldier has a tear in his eye. Instead, he shows the true history of how Irish villagers were treated by the occupying force.

The film is not just about British oppression but also tells the story of the Irish Republican movement, including its splits and divisions. The IRA are portrayed as brave, but ruthless fighters, who shoot informants spying for the British state and also the infighting with the other Irish Republicans who sold out and joined Micheal Collins' collaborationist government.



The film is very political. On scene shows the debate within one branch of the IRA about whether to agree to the creation of the free state in 1922, this meant collaborating with the British and finalising the carving up of Ireland and abandoning the North to British occupation. The most forceful argument posed by one character was that the creation of the free state was not enough as it was not just the British army who were oppressing the people of Ireland it was also the Irish landlords who were in their pocket and took privileges from the occupation.

The Wind that Shakes the Barley is being shown at 105 cinemas in the UK. Its distribution has suffered because of its political content, but it is still veteran left wing film director Ken Loach's most successful film yet.

SINGAPORE 19 - 20 SEPTEMBER SHUT DOWN THE MEETING OF THE IMF AND WORLD BANK!

STATEMENT OF THE REVOLUTION INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL, SEPTEMBER 2006

On 19-20 of September the IMF and the World Bank will gather in Singapore for another one of their annual top meetings. This is the meeting of the leaders of the trans- and multinational corporations and banks in alliance with capitalist politicians from all over the globe. They make the decisions that carve up the world's human and natural resources in the interests of profit.

In the 1980's and onwards so called "structural adjustment programmes" were signed between the IMF/WB and a number of countries in the global south. In return for billion dollar loans from Western big bankers and investors behind the IMF and WB these countries implemented those programmes. This always meant attacks on state budgets, on corporate taxes, on restrictions protecting farmers and small businessmen from cheap imports; attacks on tariffs for export of goods, making it cheaper for Western multinationals to take with them the country's resources and sell it on their home markets; and the carrying out of large-scale privatisation of state owned companies, of education, of pension systems and so on...

The policies of the IMF and WB have, not surprisingly, had disastrous effects for their victims. A country such as Indonesia for example has got about 132 billion dollars in foreign debt due to its deals with these institutions. Most of these loans were taken during the dictatorship of Suharto

(1965-1998). Its government annually pays about 10 times more in repayments than it invests in social services.

Most of the repayments are going towards paying only the rents on these loans. Indonesia, like many other countries in the part of the world being super-exploited and robbed by imperialism, faces enormous levels of inequality and oppression, deep poverty for the most of the working class and peasantry, high levels of unemployment, lack of access to clean water for the majority of its population, illiteracy for almost 30 million of its inhabitants etc. Under a neo-liberal government the needs of the poor are being far from met - quite the opposite!

Only in this year workers have had to resist further attempts from the governments to attack wages, pensions and working conditions. Students have been forced to fight ever increasing pressure on them from the universities, almost completely privatised and subordinated to capital. And so on.

Far from "fostering sustainable development" the policies of the IMF and the WB has led to the opposite. And it has led to resistance. The uprising against the neo-liberal president Fernando de la Rúa in Argentina in 2001 was both levelled at the enormous rate of corruption as well as the policies deriving from deals with these institutions (the main cause for a lot of the corruption).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4...



WHAT WE STAND FOR

The Independent on Sunday got it right in an "expose" of REVOLUTION's involvement in organising May Day 2001. It said: "REVOLUTION wants to build a revolutionary socialist mass movement and overthrow capitalism." Exactly right. We are opposed to capitalism and the misery, alienation, war and environmental destruction it creates.

We fight all forms of discrimination and oppression, whether on grounds of sex, race, nationality or sexuality.

Capitalism is a global system, so we have to fight it globally. We want to smash the borders and divisions of nations and move forward to a truly global and united humanity, without bigotry, war and class division. We stand shoulder to shoulder with our sisters and brothers in the Third World struggling to break free of the trillion dollar debt, the IMF, WTO and NATO.

We are socialists - we want to abolish capitalism and replace it with a planned economy. But we do not believe that the capitalist elite will allow their wealth and privilege to be voted out of existence. We believe it will take force to take the power and property away from the few and redistribute into the hands of the many - that means a revolution!

REVO wants young people to participate in radical politics and organise themselves. Young people can be very radical and militant, the anti war movement proved that. They should take a lead in the movement that will shape the struggle for the future.

We believe a mass movement must be built based on the support of the majority of the people - the working class. It is the working class that produces all the wealth in this society. The working class has no interest in keeping capitalism going. Only the working class has the power, the size and the traditions of organisation to bring this rotten system crashing down.

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